

Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY JAKARTA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE PRIORITY
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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAID, EAGR

SUBJECT: PROPOSED PL 480 TITLE I SALE OF EDIBLE VEGETABLE
OIL - INDIA

1. AT GOVERNMENT OF INDIA REQUEST, USG IS PLANNING PL 480
TITLE I SALE OF 50,000 METRIC TONS OF SOYBEAN OIL WORTH
DOLS 26 MILLION DURING US FY 1977. OIL WILL BE PROVIDED
ON CONVERTIBLE LOCAL CURRENCY CREDIT TERMS WITH FIVE
PERCENT INITIAL PAYMENT. BALANCE WILL BE PAYABLE IN 31
APPROXIMATELY EQUAL ANNUAL INSTALLMENTS FOLLOWING TEN-YEAR
GRACE PERIOD. INTEREST WILL BE TWO PERCENT DURING GRACE
PERIOD AND THREE PERCENT THEREAFTER.

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2. USUAL MARKETING REQUIREMENT OF 50,000 METRIC TONS WAS
SET BY CANADA IN ITS RECENT CONCESSIONAL RAPESEED OIL
AGREEMENT WITH INDIA. THIS IS FIRST EDIBLE OIL UMR ESTA-
BLISHED WITH INDIA. DATA AVAILABLE TO US INDICATE INDIA'S
COMMERCIAL IMPORTS OF EDIBLE VEGETABLE OILS FOR CALENDAR

YEARS 1971 THROUGH 1975 (IN 1,000 METRIC TONS) WERE: 0.7; 9.0; 91.0; 53.1; AND 19.9. OF THESE TOTALS, IMPORTS FROM MALAYSIA WERE 0.7; 0.7; 47.0; 29.6; AND 0.3. FROM INDONESIA ZERO FOR YEARS 1971 THROUGH 1973; 2.9 IN 1974; AND 9.9 IN 1975. FROM SINGAPORE: ZERO IN YEARS 1971, 1972 AND 1975, WITH 4.6 IN 1973 AND 20.6 IN 1974. ESTIMATE OF TOTAL EDIBLE VEGETABLE OIL IMPORTS BY INDIA FOR CALENDAR YEAR 1976 IS 200,000 MT AND FOR CY 1977, 295,000 MT, A SHARP INCREASE OVER EARLIER YEARS. THUS WE BELIEVE THESE INCREASING IMPORT NEEDS, ALONG WITH UMR, GIVE AMPLE PROTECTION TO EDIBLE VEGETABLE OIL EXPORTS TO INDIA OF THREE ADDRESSEE COUNTRIES.

3. PLEASE CONSULT HOST GOVERNMENTS. COMMENTS ARE REQUESTED BEFORE COB JANUARY 14, 1977. EMBASSIES ARE REMINDED THAT AFTER THAT DATE SUBSTANTIVE CONCERNS CANNOT ALWAYS BE CONSIDERED. THUS WE WOULD APPRECIATE AS PROMPT A RESPONSE AS POSSIBLE.
ROBINSON

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